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# ANTY 351H.50: Archaeology of North America

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## ***Professor and contact information***

Linda Brown. E-mail: Linda.Brown@mso.umt.edu; Telephone: (406) 763-8244; Address: Room 233, Department of Anthropology, Social Science Building, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59802. Contact me via: E-mail, phone, or text. If you'd like to meet, please set up an appointment.

## ***Course overview***

This online course covers the archaeological record of the diverse Native American populations who lived north of central Mexico, beginning over 15,000 years ago, up to the contact with Europeans, after A.D. 1492.

The course material is organized according to archaeologically-defined "culture areas" (see map). For each area, we will examine the prehistory and life ways of the people through the lens of archaeology knowledge. Some of the questions we will be asking are: What foods did they eat? How did they procure food? What did their houses look like? What was their religious life like? Who made group decisions? And for each culture area, how did the basic patterns of subsistence pursuits, technology, settlement patterns, social organization, and political systems change through time.

Although this online course has no set time that you must be logged into the course, it is designed to be taken each week and in sequence (see Schedule). There are no prerequisites.



## ***Learning Objectives***

- Understand how archaeologists reconstruct the past within a scientific framework
- Recognize the key methods and theoretical perspectives that guide contemporary archaeology in North America.
- Have a comprehensive knowledge of the ancient cultural adaptations of Native North American peoples through time as demonstrated by the archaeological record

## ***Required text***



*Ancient North America: The Archaeology of a Continent*, 2005, Brian Fagan, Thames and Hudson, New York. You'll find it at [the Montana bookstore](#) or online stores, such as Amazon.com and Powells.com.

There are times when I will ask you to read additional sources, especially where there have been new insights made by archaeologists since the book was written. I encourage you to share suggestions for additional readings relevant to the course as new material is encountered through your online reading of news sources.

## ***Assessments***

There are three different types of assessments: quizzes, tests, and assignments. Assessments are meant to provide you with feedback and guidance so you can plan and manage your next steps in your learning. The

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assessments help give me feedback about the material I provide you. They allow me to see your strengths so we can build on those and identify any needs you might have, which I can help you address.

## Quizzes

There is a weekly true-false quiz, which covers the material from that week with one exception. The first week has an additional quiz regarding plagiarism. Each quiz is worth 10 points. Quizzes can be taken twice and the highest grade will be recorded. You will get a different set of questions. Quizzes close at midnight on each Sunday. The 14 quizzes total 140 points.

## Tests

There are three tests. Each test consists of 35 questions, which are each worth 3 points, for a maximum of 105 points. Each test covers the current material and readings. The tests build on your ever expanding knowledge base, so some ideas may cross from one unit to the next. *Tests are more in-depth and difficult than quizzes.* Tests are available for the week as noted on the syllabus, and close at midnight on Sunday.

## Assignments

There are two written assignments for this class. Instructions for these assignments will be given on the appropriate week. Assignments are turned in during the week they are due. Each assignment is worth 100 points for a total of 200 points.

## Incomplete for the class

At the discretion of the instructor, incompletes are given to students who missed a portion of the class because of documented serious health or personal problems during the session. Students have one year to complete the course; requirements are negotiated on a case-by-case basis.



## Plagiarism and misconduct

Students found cheating, plagiarizing, “patch writing” (writing by taking phrases or sections copied from a variety of sources, linked together with your words), or giving false excuses will be dealt with strictly. Plagiarism is the subject of our first quiz. If you are unfamiliar with college expectations, work through this example from [UM's Writing Center](#) and look at broader discussions on the Internet. Academic misconduct in this class will be subject to an academic penalty (up to receiving a failing grade in this class) and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the [Student Conduct Code](#).

## Disabilities Services

Students with disabilities will receive reasonable accommodations in this online course. To request course modifications; please contact me as soon as possible. I will work with you and Disability Services in the accommodation process. For more information, visit the [Disability Services website](#) at or call 406.243.2243 (Voice/TTY).

## Grade Determination

There are a total of 655 points possible in the class; students with 90% or more of the points will receive an "A," etc. (whole grades only).

## University official dates and deadlines

For information about deadlines and drop dates, check out the [UM Calendar](#).